AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be placed before the Sabha as soon as it is received.

Collaboration with the Physical Chemistry Institute of Ukrainian Academy

2605 SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have any collaboration with the Physical Chemistry Institute of the Ukrainian Academy of U.S.S.R.; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present

(b) The question does not arise.

Inflated Telephone Bills

2606. DR. MOHD HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of inflated telephone bills received by telephone subscribers of Delhi during the period from July to November, 1987;

(b) the number of such bills found extremely incorrect as a result of scrutiny; and

(c) the reasons for these errors and the details of steps taken by Government to prevent its recurrence in future?

...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The number of complaints alleging excess charge in telephone bills received by Delhi Telephones from the subscribers during the period from July to October, 1987 is 7,563. The figures for November, 1987 have not yet been compiled.

(b) During this period, 205 bills were found to have been prepared incorrectly.

(c) General reasons for such erroneous bills are clerical mistakes, data-entry errors, metering faults and exchange faults. The steps taken to reduce errors are indicated below:

1. Entry in the meter rooms has been restricted.

2. DPs/Pillars and Cabinets in out-door plants are kept locked.

3. Subscribers' meters are being tested periodically.

4. Fortnightly meter readings are examined to detect spurts in the meter readings.

5. In doubtful cases telephone is put on parallel meter observations.

6. Data feeding to computer is checked.

7 Heavy bills are screened before despatch.

Construction of Cargo Berths at Paradip Port

2607. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in order to meet the additional traffic of 14.5 lakh tons, 5 more general cargo berths are required to be constructed during Seventh Five Year Plan at Paradip Port; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken for the construction of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.